EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes

and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided

by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be

submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview

with Leonard Heyman on 05/17/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

30.   (Currently Amended) A method for using a security apparatus to provide security for a

computer system, comprising:

dynamically loading into the security apparatus information permitting detection of

vulnerabilities and exposures for an application and information on how the security apparatus is

to prevent exploitation of the vulnerabilities and exposures on the computer system;

using the security apparatus to intercept data traffic entering the computer system; and

using the dynamically loaded information to process the intercepted data to prevent

exploitation of the vulnerabilities and exposures on the computer system, wherein the using the

dynamically loaded information further comprising using, by the security apparatus, [[uses]] new

information on vulnerabilities and exposures to handle new application sessions for the

application and continuing to use[[s]] old information on vulnerabilities and exposures to handle

existing application sessions for the application[[;]]

~~maintaining a list of which information elements are used by the vulnerabilities and~~

~~exposures; and~~

~~during processing of the data traffic, decoding only the information elements in the data~~

~~traffic that appear in the list.~~

45.   (New) The method defined in claim 30 wherein the data traffic includes information

elements, the method further comprising:

        maintaining a list of which information elements are used by the vulnerabilities and

exposures; and

        during processing of the data traffic, decoding only the information elements in the data

traffic that appear in the list.

2.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. The present

invention is directed to a method for using a security apparatus to prevent exploitation of

vulnerabilities and exposures on a computer system. More specifically, independent

claim 1 identifies the uniquely distinct features: using, by the security apparatus, new

information on vulnerabilities and exposures to handle new application sessions for the

application and continuing to use old information on vulnerabilities and exposures to

handle existing application sessions for the application. Teal (US 6,785,821), Hodges

(US 6,269,456) and Suuronen et al. (US 2003/0145228) disclose dynamically updating

information on vulnerabilities and exposures (i.e., intrusion or antivirus information);

however, none teaches or suggests using new information on vulnerabilities and

exposures to handle new application sessions and continuing to use old information on

vulnerabilities and exposures to handle existing application sessions. The prior art,

taken either singly or in combination, fails to anticipate or fairly suggest the limitations of

applicant's independent claim, in such a manner that a rejection under 35 U.S.C 102 or

103 would be proper. The claimed invention is therefore considered to be in condition

for allowance as being novel and nonobvious over prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later

than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on

Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the
examiner should be directed to MINH DINH whose telephone number is (571)272-3802.
The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri: 09:00am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's
supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number
for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the
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system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Minh Dinh/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2432

05/17/10